



# RainScapes Rewards Rebates

RainScapes Rewards projects are designed to reduce stormwater runoff and enhance the local environment. These voluntary projects are funded by the Water Quality Protection Charge (WQPC). RainScapes Rewards projects cannot be used to fulfill a county-required stormwater permit, and only new projects will be considered for a rebate. In order to qualify for a rebate, properties must be located within Montgomery County but outside of the municipalities of Rockville, Gaithersburg, and Takoma Park. (These jurisdictions collect their WQPC separately.)

| Project Timeline and Requirements |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1                                 | Read the website and design manual for the specific Rainscapes projects. Please also read our <b>Application Process</b> document.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 2                                 | Go to the online application, and fill it out.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 3                                 | Submit your RainScapes rebate application. If you don't get an email from <b>RainScapes@montgomerycountymd.gov</b> , then you did not finish your application. If you need help please contact us through that email.                                                                                                                                                 |
| 4                                 | If your application contains all the necessary information, you will be contacted by the Department of Environmental Protection to schedule a mandatory preliminary inspection. These inspections are required before project installation can begin.*<br><small>*No preliminary inspection is needed for rain barrels or tree canopy projects</small>                |
| 5                                 | Supporting documents specific to each rebate type will need to be submitted. This can happen before or after the preliminary inspection. Please see the project requirements for a supporting documents list.                                                                                                                                                         |
| 6                                 | Once you've passed the preliminary inspection, and all the supporting documents have been reviewed and approved, an application response letter* detailing approval and rebate funding level will be sent. A property owner agreement will also be sent at this time.<br><small>*Once you receive the approval notice, installation of the project can begin.</small> |
| 7                                 | Projects must be installed within six months of the date of the approval letter. Please don't hesitate to contact us with questions you may have.                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 8                                 | Once the project is installed, contact the Department of Environmental Protection to schedule a final inspection.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 9                                 | At the final inspection, you may receive a list of necessary changes to be made before a rebate can be issued. Completion of any adjustments will need to be photo-documented and emailed to <b>RainScapes@montgomerycountymd.gov</b> . Depending on the number of adjustments, a second final inspection may be necessary.                                           |
| 10                                | Submit at the end: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Copies of the receipts, itemized and with sales tax subtracted</li> <li>▪ Electronically-signed property owner agreement</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 11                                | Your rebate will be processed for payment after your project passes final inspection and you have submitted receipts and property owner agreement. The rebate check will be issued by the Montgomery County Department of Finance.                                                                                                                                    |

Montgomery County, MD  
RainScapes Rewards Rebate  
**Design Criteria and Requirements for Project Eligibility**  
**Water Harvesting: Cistern**  
Updated: January 2014



**Required Supporting documents:**

- HOA approval letter if applicable

▪ **Residential**

- Receive pre-approval from the RainScapes program.
- Rebate amount:
  - \$1.00 per gallon
- Maximum rebate:
  - \$500.00
- Minimum size:
  - 250 gallons
- Maximum size:
  - 500 gallons (exceptions can be considered on a case by case basis)
- Location:
  - On private property
  - Above ground
  - Installed on a solid, level support base
  - Overflow drains onto a pervious surface (grass, garden, etc.) or back into the downspout
  - Overflow drainage outlet directed a minimum of 4' away from foundation
  - Positive overflow drainage away from foundation
  - Overflow does not change the pre-existing flow path of stormwater
- Cistern Design:
  - Secure lid and/or screen
  - Water spigot at the bottom of the barrel for releasing water
  - Made of hard plastic or wood, no bags
  - Overflow with pipe that releases water on to the ground
  - Clear access for cleaning the inlets when necessary
- Final Steps
  - Submit itemized receipts with the tax subtracted
  - Submit the signed property owner agreement with original signatures (no copies)
  - Schedule and pass final inspection

▪ **Commercial/Institutional**

- Receive pre-approval from the RainScapes program
- Rebate amount:
  - \$1.00 per gallon

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**Water Harvesting: Cistern**  
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- Maximum rebate:
  - \$2,000.00
- Minimum size:
  - 250 gallons
- Maximum size:
  - 2,000 gallons
- Location:
  - On private property
  - Above ground
  - Installed on a solid, level support base
  - Overflow drains onto a pervious surface (grass, garden, etc.) or back into the downspout
  - Overflow drainage outlet directed a minimum of 4' away from foundation
  - Positive overflow drainage away from foundation
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